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FROM: OTTAWA

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 576, OCTOBER 29

FOLLOWING STATEMENT MADE (EVENING OCTOBER 28 BY LIBERAL LEADER PEARSON (OFFICIAL LEADER OF OPPOSITION) (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED):

"WHOLE WORLD WILL FEEL INTENSE RELIEF AT WHAT SEEMS TO BE END OF IMMEDIATE CRISIS IN CUBA. BUT WE SHOULD KEEP OUR RELIEF, AS WE SHOULD KEEP OUR FEARS, IN PERSPECTIVE.

"WHILE WE MAY PROFOUNDLY HOPE THIS PARTICULAR CRISIS-WHICH APPEARED TO HAVE TAKEN US TO VERY BRINK OF ABYSS - - HAS BEEN SOLVED, THERE ARE OTHER DANGER POINTS WHICH COULD EASILY BECOME CRISES, AND I THINK PARTICULARLY OF BERLIN.

"THERE IS INTER-RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ONE DANGEROUS PROBLEM AND ANOTHER THAT COLD WAR MAKES INEVITABLE. THEREFORE IF SETTLEMENT OF CUBAN CRISIS CAN LEAD TO REDUCTION OF TENSIONS ELSEWHERE AND PROGRESS TOWARDS DISARMAMENT THEN WE CAN BE EVEN MORE GRATEFUL TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY FOR HIS FIRM STAND LAST WEEK.

"MR. KHRUSHCHEV'S STATEMENT WHICH PRESIDENT KENNEDY HAS DESCRIBED AS 'IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE' OPENS DOOR TO FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS. WE MUST EXPLOIT TO FULL OPPORTUNITY NOW GIVEN US WITH HOPE BUT WITHOUT ILLUSIONS. IN THIS PROCESS, WHICH COULD MEAN MUCH FOR PEACE AND SECURITY AND FREEDOM, ATLANTIC COALITION MUST ACT TOGETHER, WITH WISDOM, RESTRAINT AND FIRMNESS.

"CANADA IS IMPORTANT MEMBER OF THIS COALITION AND CAN IN DAYS AHEAD, AS SHE HAS IN PAST, PLAY USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN IT.

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